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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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First Named Inventor:	David Chow	
Appln. No.:	10/500,395	Confirmation No. 9017
Filing Date:	June 24, 2005	Examiner: N. Woodall
Title:	<b>Bone Fasteners and Method for Stabilizing Vertebral Bone Facets Using Bone Fasteners</b>	Group Art Unit: 3733

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**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR RESPONSE**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of three (3) months from September 24, 2006 to December 24, 2006 within which to respond to the office action dated August 24, 2006. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the appropriate fee of \$510.00 to Deposit Account No. 04-1420.

The Commissioner is also hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 04-1420.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP  
Customer Number 25763

Date: 12/22/06

By:   
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